Export of Finished Mine Products

2510. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mining industry of the country ranks among the world's most destructive industries and is now moving to the third world as industrial countries exhaust their own mines as warned by the World Watch Institute;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the third world countries which export minerals derive little benefit;

(c) if so, what is India's share of mineral exports to the third world countries *vis-a-vis* the benefits derived therefrom; and

(d) whether India propose to export finished products instead of raw minerals and if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mineral Reserves for Public Sector Undertakings

2511. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a very large area containing minerals has been reserved for public sector undertakings for the last many years;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that mining operations are not being carried out in such areas by the concerned Undertakings;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to declare such areas open for entrepreneure in the Private sector; and

(e) if not in what manner Government propose to utilise minerals of such areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement showing the names of States in which areas containing important minerals have been reserved, is given in statement (See below).

(c) to (e) Mining operations are being carried out in many of the areas reserved for the Public Sector. The Central Government after taking into account requirement of Public sector units has recently given its consent to the Government of Madhya Pradesh to de-reserve specific areas bearing limestone, dolomite and managanese in Balaghat, Chhindwara, Satna and Bilaspur district.